

SENATOR COORDSEN: I was going to call the question, Madam President.

SENATOR CROSBY: Question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The motion is to cease debate. All in favor vote aye, opposed no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Madam President.

SENATOR CROSBY: Debate does cease. Senator Withem, would you like to close on your amendment.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yeah, very briefly. First of all, the intent of the amendment, because the way I wrote it up there may be some confusion. It says it strikes Section 1. Technically, I suppose there is only one section to the entire amendment, that was not my intent. My intention was to strike beginning in line 3, page 1 of the committee amendment, down through line 8, so that subsection (2) would remain. The study would be...the Department of Revenue would be directed to do the study. And I think that study would be good. I think Senator...I'd like...I enjoyed hearing Senator Wehrbein's remarks, you know, talking about the substance of the issue of livestock taxation. To be real frank when we were doing the 3-R stuff, I assumed ultimately we would come up with a system of treating all livestock the same, and had no policy concern with that particularly and I still don't necessarily, as a policy. My fear is what got us into trouble with personal property tax to begin with was treating different types of property...same types of property in different fashion. And I am concerned that if we treat some type of depreciable property different than other types of depreciable property, we'll begin the process all over again. I know we have an Attorney General's Opinion that thinks this sort of thing would be possible, but I'm not convinced. We've had lots of Attorney General Opinions from lots of different Attorney Generals over the years that have gotten us into trouble. I am concerned about beginning the process of wrecking the fragile proposal we put back together, and that's what my concern is. I would point out to people that if this amendment is adopted, in some ways I...I think you've accomplished what you wanted to accomplish, that is, number one, you're going to have a serious look at the livestock industry and how it's taxed by the Department of Revenue; and secondly, Senator Coordsen, you'll have your vehicle. You'll have your vehicle, there for an amendment on some sleepy day when next